

# Red Bank Catholic High School

February 2026

Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians:

We have a great deal of information to give you regarding graduation activities, and we know you must have many questions. Please read this memo, and we hope that most of your questions will be answered. **All graduation related information can be found in the Student Life section of the Red Bank Catholic website.**

## BACCALAUREATE/COMMENCEMENT

This year the Baccalaureate Mass will be held at St. Mary's Parish, 19 Cherry Tree Farm Road, Middletown Township at 7:30p.m. on May 28<sup>th</sup>, with Commencement being held the following day on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the OceanFirst Bank Center Arena at Monmouth University beginning at 10:00a.m.

## TICKETS

There will be no tickets for Mass. Seating is limited and first come first serve at St. Mary's. Ushers will help to facilitate seating.

Tickets **will provide access** for the Commencement event at Monmouth University. Each senior will receive **8 tickets** which will be distributed to students on May 27<sup>th</sup> at **graduation practice**. **There are no extra tickets.** If you would like to try and gain more tickets for your group, we would suggest asking other families who do not need all of their tickets.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS OR GRANTS, SPECIAL AWARDS

Each year for Commencement we list the name of scholarship/special award recipients. This does not apply to loans. In order for the achievements to be recognized, we ask that you bring **proof of the award** to **Mrs. Brendel in the Guidance Office**. The staff will make a copy of the document and return the original to you. The **absolute** deadline for submitting proof is **Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** to allow for program printing deadlines. After May 8<sup>th</sup> any scholarship/special awards **will not** be recognized in the graduation ceremony program.

## ATTENDANCE AT PRACTICE

**May 27<sup>th</sup>** is the **only** scheduled practice date for Commencement. **Practice is mandatory for all seniors, as is participation in Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement.** On **May 27<sup>th</sup>**, the students must report to Monmouth University for practice at **11:00am**. **Do not schedule any appointments, college testing, or work commitments** that would interfere with the practice on May 27<sup>th</sup> or the events on May 28<sup>th</sup> and May 29<sup>th</sup>.

## CAPS and GOWNS

Cap and gown distribution is scheduled for **May 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am**. National Honor Society members will get their stole from Mrs. Carton or Mrs. Prior personally. **All debts must be paid before the cap and gown will be given to the senior.** The gowns will need to be ironed thoroughly. Please try the gown on the day you receive it. Also, double check that you have a tassel with your cap. \*Students are not permitted to decorate their caps. In case of a problem, see Mrs. Mercer as soon as possible.

**Gowns \*only\* will be worn for Baccalaureate Mass. Caps and gowns will be worn for Ceremony.**

## DRESS FOR BACCALAUREATE/COMMENCEMENT

**Boys:** white dress shirt; solid tie (no stripes, pattern); dark dress trousers; dark socks; well-polished dress shoes; hair well-groomed and above shirt collar; face clean-shaven; no earrings or other piercings, no gum.

**Girls:** appropriate dress; light-colored heels (no flip flops); hairstyle simple because of cap; simple jewelry; no gum; no corsages or bouquets, no purses or small bags, no nose rings or other piercings other than earrings.

\*\*\*There will **NOT** be a secure location to leave student personal items (cell phones, keys etc. at the OceanFirst Bank Center.)\*\*\*

## DIRECTIONS / PARKING

St. Mary's Parish is located at 19 Cherry Tree Farm Road, Middletown Township. There is ample parking available.

We suggest that you check the Monmouth University website for directions if you are not sure of Monmouth University's location. Ample parking is available in front of the OceanFirst Bank Center and is easily accessible from the Larchwood Avenue entrance. Please refer to the map provided to see exact location of parking for guests.

## ARRIVAL TIMES

- **Baccalaureate Mass: May 28<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Graduates** arrive at the Church at 7:00p.m.
  - **Guests** doors open at the Church at 7:00p.m.
- **Commencement Ceremony: May 29<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Graduates** arrive at the OceanFirst Bank Center at 9:15a.m.
  - **Guests** doors open at the OceanFirst Bank Center at 9:15a.m.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **Please do not bring balloons into the OceanFirst Bank Center or noisemakers of any kind.**
- Traffic along the access streets to Monmouth University can be heavy at times. Please plan accordingly.
- We ask that parents discuss with their graduate and with their guests what constitutes appropriate behavior for a Commencement exercise.

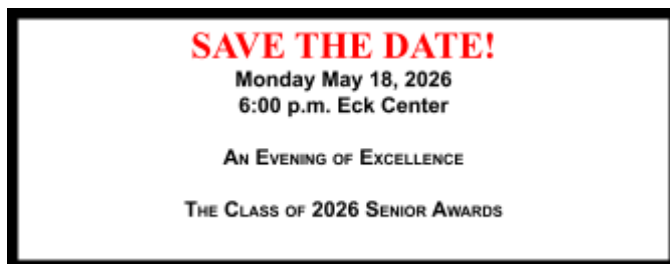
***Included is an online student contract that each senior must e-sign, parents & guardians must see before the submission deadline of Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026.***

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Taking good pictures at Monmouth might be very difficult. No one will be permitted to come onto the floor of the facility. All guests must remain seated in the bleachers. To help you with this important task, we have arranged for professional photographers to take a close-up picture of your graduate as he/she receives their diploma. You may also order a downloadable digital video of the ceremony or personalized short clip. The information flyer is available on the Student Life section of the Red Bank Catholic website.

## HANDICAP/ DISABILITY ACCESS

To accommodate special needs for your guests as soon as possible, please fill out the online form located on the Graduation Information webpage. You will also find a map of the designated handicapped entry at the MAC and where the reserved seating will be to best accommodate all of your guests.



Students selected for awards will be notified in early May. Eligible senior athletes will receive their Casey blankets that evening.

**All graduation related information can be found under the Student Life section of the Red Bank Catholic website.**

Mrs. Nicole Mercer  
Graduation Coordinator